

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 NICOSI 02962 241451Z

21

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FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4498

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BONN

USMISSION EC BURSELS

DIA WASHDC

C/AMEMBASSY LONDON 5345

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES IT

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L NICOSIA 2962

USCINCEUR FOR POLAD

USDOCOSOUTH FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CY, GR, PINT

SUBJ: MAKARIOS RUMORED TO BE BEHIND NEWLY-PUBLISHED ANTI-CIA BOOK

1. ISRAELI AMBASSADOR TO CYPRUS(YOSHA), IN RECENT CONVERSATION WITH AMBASSADOR CRAWFORD, DREW TO OUR ATTENTION NEW BOOK BY RIGHT-WING AND FORMERLY ANTI-MAKARIOS JOURNALIST SPYROS PAPA-GHERGHIU PURPORTING TO "TELL ALL" ABOUT ALLEGED CIA INVOLVEMENT WITH EOKA-B AND ANTI-MAKARIOS PLOTS OVER THE YEARS. BOOK, ENTITLED "MAKARIOS-THROUGH FIRE AND SWORD", APPEARED ON MARKET HERE SOME THREE WEEKS AGO AND WAS PUBLISHED IN ATHENS BY G. LADIAS AND COMPANY.

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PAGE 02 NICOSI 02962 241451Z

2. LARGELY A WARMED-OVER VERSION OF WILD ANTI-CIA ARTICLES APPEARING SEVERAL MONTHS AGO IN NOW DEFUNCT, ACIDLY ANTI-AMERICAN GREEK CYPRIOT DAILY ANEGENESIS, BOOK WOULD NOT NORMALLY BE OF MORE THAN PASSING INTEREST. ACCORDING TO YOSHA, HOWEVER, ISRAELI INTELLIGENCE HAS PICKED UP INFORMATION SUGGESTING THAT ARCHBISHOP MAKARIOS MAY HAVE ENCOURAGED AND EVEN ASSISTED FINANCIALLY IN PUBLISHING THIS BOOK. FURTHER, THAT CYPRUS INFORMATION SERVICES IS INVOLVED IN ITS DISTRIBUTION. PAPGHERGHIOU, SAID YOSHA, ANXIOUS TO RETURN TO CYPRUS FROM ATHENS BUT HESITANT TO DO SO BEFORE MAKEINGAMENDS WITH MAKARIOS FOR HIS HAVING ACCEPTED POSITION IN SHORT-LIVED SAMPSON REGIME, REPORTEDLY MADE SOME KIND OF CONTACT WITH MAKARIOS IN ATHENS WHILE LATTER WAS EN ROUTE TO CSCE HELSINKI CONFERENCE LAST SUMMER. OUT OF THIS CONTACT A DEAL REPORTEDLY EMERGED WHEREBY PAPAGHEORGHIOU WOULD WRITE A PRO-MAKARIOS ACCOUNT OF COUP AND EOKA-B PLOTTING AGAINST ARCHBISHOP.

3. PAPGHEORGHIOU IS PRESENTLY EDITOR-IN-CHIEF OF RIGHT-WING ATHENS DAILY ESTIA. FOLLOWING THE 1974 COUP HE WAS APPOINTED DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE AND THEN DIRECTOR GENERAL OF CYPRUS BROADCASTING CORPORATION. HE CONTINUED IN THESE POSITIONS UNDER CLERIDES FOR A WHILE BUT WAS SUBSEQUENTLY EASED OUT WHEN FORMER PRE-COUP INCUMBENTS RETURNED. PAPAGHEORGHIOU HAS A REPUTATION FOR BEING A FANATIC, CAPABLE OF RESORTING TO VIOLENCE AND NOT AT ALL HESITANT TO EMBROIDER TRUTH TO ADVANCE A PERSONAL CAUSE. PAPGHEORGHIOU REPTRTEDLY WARNED MAKARIOS ABOUT A POSSIBLE ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT FOLLOWING LATTER'S RETURN TO THE ISLAND IN DECEMBER 974 AND THERE WAS SPECULATION THEN AND SINCE THAT PAPGHEORGHIOU HAD DONE THIS TO PAVE THE WAY FOR HIS OWN RETURN. PAPGHEORGHIOU DID RETURN TO THE ISLAND FOR A VISIT THIS SUMMER BUT REPORTEDLY HAS NO INTENTION OF RETURNING ON A PERMANENT BASIS AS LONG AS HE HAS HIS PRESENT POSITION WITH ESTIA.

4. COMMENT: WE HAVE NO EVIDENCE COOROBORATING YOSHA'S REPORT THAT MAKARIOS MAY HAVE HAD A HAND IN PROMOTING PAPAGHEORGHIOU'S BOOK. WE ARE FRANKLY SKEPTICAL THAT MAKARIOS WOULD SEE MUCH NEED TO STIMULATE ANTI-CIA PROPAGANDA, SINCE LYSSARIDES, AKEL, AND OTHERS DO IT MORE THAN ADEQUATELY  
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PAGE 03    NICOSI 02962 241451Z

ALREADY AND SINCE CIA COMPLICITY IN THE COUP AND EARLIER ASSASSINATION ATTEMPTS IS AN ARTICLE OF FAITH HERE ANYWAY. IN OUR VIEW A MORE PLAUSIBLE EXPLANATION FOR MAKARIOS' ALLEGED INVOLVEMENT IN THE BOOK-IF IN FACT HE WAS INVOLVED-MIGHT BE THAT HE SAW DIDACTIC VALUE IN HAVING A FORMERLY ANTI-MAKARIOS, PRO-JUNTA JOURNALIST "SEE THE LIGHT," TATTLE ON HIS EOKA-B FRIENDS, JOIN THE MAKARIOS CAMP, AND CONVENIENTLY CHALK UP PAST DIFFERENCES TO CIA MACHINATIONS.

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